

Customer No. 24498
Response to Office Action of 5/17/10

PD030131
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Amendments to the Drawings

Please replace Figure 15 with the provided Figure 15 labeled REPLACEMENT SHEET.

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Remarks

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 15-18, 20, 22-27 and 30 have been rejected. Claims 4, 6, 13-14, 19, 21 and 28-29 already have been confirmed as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5, 7-12, 15, 18, 20, 22-27 and 30 have been cancelled by a currently performed amended.

Figure 15 has been objected to. A replacement Fig. 15 is enclosed, wherein overlapping text which was difficult to read (item 17) has been corrected.

No new matter has been added.

Figures

Figure 15 has been objected to as having overlapping text which is difficult to read (item 17). A replacement sheet for Figure 15 is provided with this amendment that corrects the overlapping text.

Claim Objections

The dependency and typographical and grammatical issues in claims 6, 13-14 and 19 have been corrected and claims 7-12, 15, 18 and 27 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 15-18, 20, 22-27 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriyama et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 6,100,859).

Independent claims 1 and 16 and claims dependent thereon have been amended amended for clarification and to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as his invention. Furthermore, it has to be noticed that the terms as "sustain frequency" and "sustaining frequency" often lead to confusion and therefore have to be interpreted in the meaning of the content of the disclosure. The term "sustain frequency" as used in the present application is related to the frequency of the sustain pulse, which means the number of sustain pulses in a certain time unit as 1 second for Hz or 0,001 second for kHz during the occurrence of

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sustain pulses or derived from the duration of one sustain pulse (the bigger the sustain frequency is, the shorter the sustain pulse) in kHz usually.

However, the term "sustaining frequency" as used by Kuriyama et al. is related to the number of sustain pulses in a frame or in a sub-frame, where is not such a time base and the sustain frequency is only limited by the fact that the pulses have to be sufficient short that the number of sustain pulses can be provided during a frame or sub-frame period, however, is constant as illustrated in the drawing. In addition also the wording "the frequency of the sustain pulse during sustain period" leads often to confusion as "sustain period" defines the time period during which sustain pulses occur, and not the time duration of a single sustain pulse. Some others use "sustain frequency" to refer to the number of sustain pulses in a frame or in a sub-frame as e.g. the abstract of EP 1 959 418 A3 (provided) reads: "the total light emission pulse number (sustain frequency)". That means that is necessary to interpret the terms in its real and objective meaning respectively.

This confusion is exactly the case in Kuriyama. In Kuriyama there is no reference to Hz or kHz when reading on the term sustaining frequency. But there are significant evidences that it refers to the number of sustain pulses per sub-frame: E.g. Kuriyama col. 14, ll. 5-7 reads: "In FIG. 13, the dashed line in an area defined as a sustaining period indicates a sustaining pulse whose generation frequency has been adjusted", while it is clearly visible in FIG. 13 that the sustain pulses have always the same width, just the number of sustains per sub-frame is different for different lines. This is also confirmed by Col. 14 ll. 18-20: "the number of sustaining pulses to be applied within a specified period during each sub-frame can be decreased"

In view of said differences Kuriyama et al. fails to disclose or suggest all elements of the claimed invention set forth in independent claims 1 and 16. In particular, Kuriyama et al. discloses that: "A frequency of sustaining discharge is set line by line on the basis of the quantity of display data per line which is provided by the display data quantity counter." (see abstract) However, Kuriyama et al. fails to disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, "selecting, for each subfield, a sustain frequency reduced in accordance with its maximal load difference (between two consecutive lines of the display panel) in order to reduce line load effect.", which means that according to the present invention the sustain frequency (number of sustain pulses in a certain time expressed in Hz or kHz) is reduced dependent on the load difference between two consecutive lines of the display panel in order to reduce line load effect.

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That means that according to the present invention, the terms "sustain period" and "sustain frequency" refer to the most common definition, which represents the sustain frequency in kHz as illustrated in Fig. 11 of the present invention. Consequently, Kuriyama et al. neither discloses nor gives a hint to the present invention as set forth in independent claims 1 and 16.

In view of the amendments and discussion above, the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 16 is not anticipated by Kuriyama et al. Since the remainder of the pending claims depend from either claim 1 or claim 16, they are also not anticipated by Kuriyama et al. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw of the rejection to the claims and pass the claims to issue.

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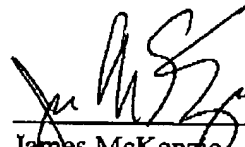
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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the amended pending claims patentably define over the cited art and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of the pending claims. Reconsideration for a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If any additional fees are incurred on the basis of this amendment, please charge such fee against deposit account 07-0832

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